

S/N 10/537,708
In response to the Office Action dated August 17, 2009

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An analytical tool to be mounted to an analytical apparatus which includes a plurality of terminals and an analysis circuit, the analytical tool comprising:

a substrate including a first end edge and a second end edge opposite to the first end edge;

a plurality of electrodes formed on the substrate for coming into contact with the plurality of terminals when mounted to the analytical apparatus, each of the electrodes or electrodes extending along the substrate between the first end edge and the second end edge; and

a reagent portion formed on the substrate adjacent the first end edge of the substrate;

wherein at least one of the electrodes serves as a disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode to which disturbing noise is more likely to come in comparison with the electrodes other than said at least one of the electrodes, another of the electrodes serving as a working electrode; and

wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode extends toward the second end edge of the substrate and terminates at a first exposed end, the working electrode also extends toward the second end edge of the substrate and terminates at a second exposed end, the first exposed end of the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode being located closer to the second end edge of the substrate than the second exposed end of the working electrode is to the second end edge of the substrate; and

wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode includes a noise inputting exposed portion for allowing input of static electricity.

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2. (Previously Presented) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of electrodes include a first electrode serving as the working electrode to be connected to the analysis circuit and a second electrode for applying voltage to a target portion in cooperation with the first electrode, and

wherein the second electrode serves as the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode.

3. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 2, wherein the second electrode is not electrically connected to the analysis circuit when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

4. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 3, wherein the plurality of terminals of the analytical apparatus include a ground connection terminal connected to ground, and

wherein the second electrode comes into contact with the ground connection terminal when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

5. (Previously Presented) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of electrodes include a first electrode serving as the working electrode to be connected to the analysis circuit, a second electrode for applying voltage to a target portion in cooperation with the first electrode, and a third electrode which is not involved in the voltage application to the target portion, and

wherein the third electrode serves as the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode.

6. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 5, wherein the third electrode is not electrically connected to the analysis circuit when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

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7. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of terminals of the analytical apparatus include a ground connection terminal connected to ground, and

wherein the third electrode comes into contact with the ground connection terminal when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

8. (Previously Presented) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of electrodes include a first electrode serving as the working electrode to be connected to the analysis circuit, a second electrode for applying voltage to a target portion in cooperation with the first electrode, and a third electrode which is not involved in the voltage application to the target portion, and

wherein each of the second and third electrodes serves as the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode.

9. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 8, wherein the third electrode is not electrically connected to the analysis circuit when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

10. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 9, wherein the plurality of terminals of the analytical apparatus include a ground connection terminal connected to ground, and

wherein the third electrode comes into contact with the ground connection terminal when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus.

11. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 1, further comprising a flow path for moving a sample, and an air vent for discharging air from the flow path.

12. (Currently Amended) The analytical tool according to claim 11, wherein the noise inputting exposed portion of the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode includes an input portion to which disturbing noise coming is exposed through the air vent is inputted.

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13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The analytical tool according to claim [[13]] 12, wherein the input noise inputting exposed portion is provided directly below the air vent and partially covered by an insulating film, and

wherein the insulating film includes an opening for partially exposing the input noise inputting exposed portion.

15. (Currently Amended) The analytical tool according to claim 12, further comprising a cover which is bonded to the substrate and in which the air vent is formed, wherein the input noise inputting exposed portion includes a part located at a periphery of the air vent.

16. (Currently Amended) The analytical tool according to claim 15, wherein the input noise inputting exposed portion surrounds the air vent.

17. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode surrounds at least one of the plurality of electrodes except the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode.

18. (Previously Presented) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode is formed along a periphery of the substrate.

19. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 1, wherein when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus, the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode comes into contact with a corresponding one of the terminals of the analytical apparatus earlier in comparison with the other electrodes than the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode.

20. (Cancelled)

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21. (Original) The analytical tool according to claim 1, further comprising a pinch portion which is utilized in mounting the analytical tool to the analytical apparatus or detaching the analytical tool from the analytical apparatus.
22. (Currently Amended) The analytical tool according to claim 21, wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode is covered by an insulating film except for an exposed the noise inputting exposed portion adjacent to the pinch portion.
23. (Previously Presented) The analytical tool according to claim 22, wherein the pinch portion comprises a recess formed at a side edge of the analytical tool.
24. (Currently Amended) A combination of an analytical tool and an analytical apparatus, the analytical tool being mounted on the analytical apparatus for analysis; the analytical apparatus comprising a plurality of terminals and an analysis circuit, the plurality of terminals including a voltage applying terminal and a grounding terminal;
the analytical tool comprising a plurality of electrodes including a working electrode and a grounding electrode serving as a disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode; and
wherein the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode includes an exposed connection end and a noise inputting exposed portion for allowing input of static electricity;
wherein when the analytical tool is mounted to the analytical apparatus, the exposed connection end of the disturbing-noise countermeasure electrode comes into contact with the grounding terminal of the analytical apparatus earlier than the working electrode comes into contact with the voltage applying terminal.